

It is my pleasure to announce the participation of Florida's 23rd district in the 2011 Congressional Art Competition. The theme of this year's competition is *An Artistic Discovery*.

Further, the contest is open to all high school students. The winner of the art competition for Florida's 23

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district will be honored by having their artwork showcased for the next year in the Cannon tunnel of the U.S. Capitol complex along with the winning works of the other 49 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.

As a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I recognize the vital role that the arts play in our communities. The arts contribute to our culture, community, education, and local economies. It is imperative that we continue to support the arts and arts in education, especially during difficult economic times. Through initiatives such as the Congressional Art Competition, we are able to spur young artists' creativity and talent and recommit ourselves as a nation to the vital role the arts play in our society.

Initial information regarding the guidelines for this year's competition has been released and can be found at: <http://www.house.gov/house/ArtGuidelines.shtml> . Here you will also find the Student Information/Release Form which must be completed for submission.

The deadline for submission of entries to Congressman Hastings' office is April 29, 2011.

Students and teachers interested in learning more about the Congressional Art Competition may also contact Congressman Hastings' Washington, D.C., Fort Lauderdale or West Palm Beach offices:

Washington, D.C.:

Erin Moffet

202-225-1313

Fort Lauderdale:

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Congressman Hastings' Congressional Art Competition is held annually and is open to any student attending a high school located in Florida's 23rd Congressional district, which includes parts of Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Hendry Counties. Artwork that can be submitted must be two-dimensional and can be no larger than 28" x 28" x 4", including the frame. Accepted artwork ranges from paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computer generated art, and photography.